

## **Y Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith / Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee**

Gohebiaeth ynghylch problemau gyda chyflenwad dŵr i aelwydydd yng ngogledd Sir Benfro gan y Prif Weithredwr, PLANED, a dderbyniwyd drwy e-bost – 19 Gorffennaf 2021 /

Correspondence regarding problems with water supply to households in north Pembrokeshire from the Chief Executive, PLANED received via e-mail – 19 July 2021

Bore da / Good morning

Following a meeting with Sam Kurtz MS here at PLANED in Pembrokeshire last Friday, we discussed a number of issues on which we are currently involved working with communities in our rural areas on, which may be interest to the committee.

One issue which we would like to see the Committee discuss, and into which, we would happily provide verbal evidence during discussions on, is the **topic of Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water, and their lack of support as a not-for-profit company in Wales, doubling in effect, the amount they are charging 30+ households in North Pembrokeshire at Trecwn, to connect to mains water.**

Currently in Wales, in 2021, these houses have a private water supply whose **pipework is at risk of collapse, they have weekly deliveries of bottled water** as the water from the taps is not safe to drink, and the **majority of the householders, are already facing economic hardships.**

Yet, despite after years of difficult discussions, PLANED alongside very supportive officers from Pembrokeshire County Council, have worked hard to get the residents to a positive point of action, and Welsh Water had agreed to address the issue, and **connect the households, at a cost of approx. £5k per property.** A local contractor was agreed, the local authority would provide the initial funding, and recoup via a loan or charge to the properties, which residents agreed to.

Then **Welsh Water** on undertaking a further survey to those already done, decided the water pressure was not sufficient, would necessitate re-routing, and the **costs to the residents would likely increase to £9,500 per household approximately, with no guarantee this would be the final cost, and likely still increase potentially.**

Therefore, we would welcome the Committee inviting Welsh Water in for **discussion on how in Wales in 2021, 30+ households in one community are being charged double for a basic necessity, to what they were originally prepared to pay themselves, and now have no guarantee that the doubled price will be capped.**

We as PLANED having facilitated and supported these discussions over recent years between all parties, but in the main interest of the residents, would welcome inputting into any debate and **questions by the Committee to understand how a not-for-profit organisation in Wales, with considerable income and reserves, does not see fit to provide 30+ families with a basic right to have access to clean, safe, running water at a fair and fixed price.**

I look forward to hearing from you and colleagues in due course.

With kind regards,

Iwan

**Iwan Thomas**

**Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive**

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